Topics in Trade and Development G6905
Syllabus

Course Organization

The course is organized into units based on chapters in the new Handbook of International Economics, Basil Blackwell, James Harrigan, editor. Each unit will have two two-hour sessions devoted to it. Presentation of each of the units will be by one or a couple of students interested in a particular area of research. The student will read the chapter from the Handbook plus a selection of articles in the area. The presentations will cover the main lessons from the field, problems in the literature and potential avenues of future research.

Course Requirements

All students are expected to read the surveys that will be discussed and are strongly encouraged to look at some of the original articles as well. By the final day of class, participants are required to write a paper. The paper should include a survey of prior work and at least some new and meaningful exercises based on a data set used for one of the papers the student surveys.

Additional Readings

Here we have only listed the chapters of the Handbook that will be covered. The reason is that we want the students, in consultation with Davis and Weinstein, to select the additional papers to be read.

I. Donald R. Davis and David E. Weinstein, “The Factor Content of Trade”

II. James Harrigan, “Specialization”

III. James Harrigan, “The Volume of Trade: Do the Data Obey the Laws?”


VI. James R. Tybout, “Plant- and Firm-Level Evidence on “New” Trade Theories”